WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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2

3 storage groups.

1	1. A method for storing data, comprising:				
2	associating a cluster with a plurality of storage groups;				
3	designating a storage group preference order for data sets associated with the				
4	cluster; and				
5	when a request to store a data set for the cluster is received, selecting one of the				
6	plurality of storage groups using the storage group preference order.				
1	2. The method of claim 1, wherein selecting one of the storage groups further				
2	comprises:				
3	selecting one of the storage groups using the storage group preference order and				
4	storage space availability in each of the plurality of storage groups.				
1	3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:				
2	providing a preference setting statement for use in designating the storage group				
3	preference order.				
1	4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:				
2	presetting a preference setting so that the storage group preference order is used.				
1	5. The method of claim 3, wherein a storage group preference policy includes				
2 the preference setting statement.					
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The method of claim 1, further comprising:

storing the data set for the cluster in a storage device in the selected one of the

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1		7.	The method of claim 1, wherein the data set comprises one of a newly		
2	created data set and an extended data set for which storage space is being allocated.				
1		8.	The method of claim 1, wherein the storage group comprises a sub storage		
2	group.				
1		9.	A system for storing data, comprising:		
2		means	for associating a cluster with a plurality of storage groups;		
3		means	for designating a storage group preference order for data sets associated		
4	with the cluster; and				
5	means for when a request to store a data set for the cluster is received, selecting				
6	one of	the plu	rality of storage groups using the storage group preference order.		
1		10.	The system of claim 9, wherein selecting one of the storage groups further		
2	compr	ises:			
3		means	s for selecting one of the storage groups using the storage group preference		
4	order a	and sto	rage space availability in each of the plurality of storage groups.		
1		11.	The system of claim 9, further comprising:		
2		means	s for providing a preference setting statement for use in designating the		
3	storag	e group	preference order.		
1		12.	The system of claim 9, further comprising:		
2		mean	s for presetting a preference setting so that the storage group preference		
3	order	is used.			
1		13.	The system of claim 12, wherein a storage group preference policy		
2	includ	les the	preference setting statement.		

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l	14. The system of claim 9, further comprising:				
2	means for storing the data set for the cluster in a storage device in the selected one				
3	of the storage groups.				
1	15. The system of claim 9, wherein the data set comprises one of a ne	wly			
2	created data set and an extended data set for which storage space is being allocated.				
1	16. The system of claim 9, wherein the storage group comprises a sub	storage			
2	group.				
1	17. An article of manufacture encoded with instructions for storing date	ıta,			
2	wherein the instructions cause operations to be performed, the operations comprising:				
3	associating a cluster with a plurality of storage groups;				
4	designating a storage group preference order for data sets associated with	the			
5	cluster; and				
6	when a request to store a data set for the cluster is received, selecting one of the				
7					
1	18. The article of manufacture of claim 17, wherein operations for se	lecting			
2	one of the storage groups further comprise:				
3	selecting one of the storage groups using the storage group preference or	der and			
4	the first of the first of the following amount				
1	19. The article of manufacture of claim 17, the operations further con	nprising			
2	providing a preference setting statement for use in designating the storage	e group			
3	preference order.				

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- 1 20. The article of manufacture of claim 17, the operations further comprising: 2 presetting a preference setting so that the storage group preference order is used.
- 1 21. The article of manufacture of claim 20, wherein a storage group preference 2 policy includes the preference setting statement.
- 1 22. The article of manufacture of claim 17, the operations further comprising: 2 storing the data set for the cluster in a storage device in the selected one of the 3 storage groups.
- 1 23. The article of manufacture of claim 17, wherein the data set comprises one 2 of a newly created data set and an extended data set for which storage space is being 3 allocated.
- 1 24. The article of manufacture of claim 17, wherein the storage group 2 comprises a sub storage group.